



SPIRITUAL FRONTIERS FELLOWSHIP

Newsletter

Vol. 3

LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH & ENLIGHTENMENT

No. 2

February 1969

GATE WAY EDITOR HONORED AT LUNCHEON



More than forty people gathered at the beautiful South Shore Country Club, Tuesday, December 17, at a luncheon honoring Laurence Tunstall Heron, recently retired editor of Gate Way magazine, and Frances Dunlap Heron--wife, columnist, proof-reader, and helper. After a delicious luncheon, greetings were read by the Reverend Paul Higgins from friends across the country. Tribute was paid to his more than six years of service by the Reverend Ross K. Sweeny, current President of SFF; Mrs. Irene Hughes, Chicago psychic and member of the Charioteers--a study group that has long met in the Heron home; the Reverend Joseph B. Fitch, Executive Director of SFF. As a climax to the festivities, Mrs. Olive Hoit, a Life Member of SFF, presented to the Heron's a gift of \$500 from their friends and the Spir-

itual Frontiers Fellowship. Mr. Heron responded to each statement made by the well-wishers, promising to retain their interest in SFF and promptly took out a three-year membership for the two of them. Mrs. Heron has written the second of the monthly study lessons, which will be found in this issue of the Newsletter.

The best wishes of all of us go with them in their retirement.

The Newsletter of Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship is published ten times a year (monthly except July and August), by the Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship, the office of which is at 800 Custer Avenue, Evanston, Illinois. It is edited by Joseph B. Fitch. Members of SFF receive the Newsletter by virtue of membership. Second-class postage paid at Evanston, Illinois.

What is the Difference BetweenPrayer and Meditation?

In my opinion, prayer is communication with God. Communication is an understandable transmission of knowledge between the two communicators. Each may request something of the other for self or for someone else. Each may report something. Each may ponder a matter under discussion. Each may express appreciation for the other. Prayer, thus, may be respectively petition, intercession, confession. It may be adoration, contemplation, thanksgiving. God (Spirit--Infinite Intelligence) created man in his own image and likeness. Thus, man's soul (spirit--mind) may communicate on a mental (silent) level as well as verbally. This is why prayer may be described at times more as attitude than words. Psychic energy is linked with the mind as well as the emotions and the body.

Meditation is the preparation of one's self for God to speak. The preparation consists of selecting as quiet a location as possible; relaxing; concentrating on a Bible verse, a photograph of a loved one, or simply "centering down" as Quakers do; and slowing down the breathing rate--unless one has heart disease in which case he simply should make his breathing as regular as possible. The aim is to quiet the restlessness, the noise, the ego, and to contact the Source of Infinite Power--the Kingdom of God Jesus said is within you.

When meditating alone, especially the beginner, it is better to ignore psychical and mystical experiences until one is familiar with their nature and is fully acquainted with the gifts of the Spirit. This is why we advocate studying in groups, for then one may compare the reactions with others present. Love present in groups casts out all fear. We also test the spirits as the Bible teaches. But more than that God may speak long after the silence is over in a flash of insight, some idea, a burst of intuition, a verse of Scripture, a change of circumstance, the suggestion of a friend, a vision, a dream, or some psychical or mystical encounter--any one of which is otherwise lacking in our confused and frightened selves.

Dear Friends of our Fellowship:

The work and witness of Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship are opening the windows to new light for thousands of people. Those with their own cherished experience of the reality of the unseen world are receiving the added blessing of being linked with others with kindred mind in the wondrous assurances of prayer, healing, and immortality. All of this which illumines the meaning and purpose of life is the concern of SFF. There is no work of greater importance to the destiny and wholeness of men, and there is no witness more vital and meaningful. We are convinced that this work and witness is of God.

We solicit your prayerful support and your continuing financial assistance. The increasing numbers of members uniting with SFF and the expanding efforts to meet their needs increase the cost of our administration and program. If we are to successfully carry forward our new quarterly journal, the monthly Newsletter, the library and book service, the research projects, the exciting new study group program, with the conducting of seminars, lectures and retreats in many parts of the country, we must have more money. We feel that the challenge to us is so significant and that all of us are eager to spread this good news ("new life the dead receive") that all of us committed to the cause will be glad to respond generously.

Will you consider sending us an extra check over and above the minimum membership fee? It is only in receiving these larger gifts that we will be enabled to keep the work moving ahead. Perhaps you will want to become a Contributing Member (your choice of from \$20-\$99 per year) or a Patron Member (\$100 or more per year). Membership dues provide only 52% of our limited budget, which leaves a considerable amount to be raised through extra gifts.

May our Lord guide us in our giving and serving, as windows of new light open before us.

Faithfully yours,

Ross K. Sweeny
President

A LETTER FROM THE HERON'S

Dear Fellow Members of SFF:

To Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship and to the dozens of members who participated in the December 17 luncheon and in the gift to Mrs. Heron and me, we are most grateful. On arriving at home and opening the envelope presented by Mrs. Lowell Hoit on behalf of SFF, we were astounded by its generosity. As the Reverend Paul L. Higgins suggested, we hope to use the money to add many days to our next Christopsychic pilgrimage. The editorship of Gate Way was a labor of love, relished for its own sake, but the evidence of appreciation by members of the Fellowship intensified our appreciation of the incalculable benefit that SFF already had bestowed upon us. We thank you.

Laurence Tunstall Heron

AREA CHAPTER NEWS

ARIZONA, Phoenix:

Arthur Ford wound up his Western Tour by appearing at the Asbury Methodist Church for an SFF lecture December 7. Nearly 500 were present. On Sunday morning he spoke to approximately 400 people, and on Sunday night to an equal number. The Reverend Paul Wilkinson, Chapter Chairman, reports that future programs are scheduled for Feb. 9 at 4 P.M. and March 9 at 4 P.M. The April date will be determined later. Future plans include forming study and meditation groups.

CALIFORNIA, San Diego:

Psychic artist, the Rev. Mr. Stanley B. Matrunick held a special demonstration meeting for SFF at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin A. Robinson on Jan. 29. A new newsletter announcement sheet has been started by this chapter.

CALIFORNIA, Los Angeles:

Venture is now in its fifth year as the publication of the Los Angeles and Southern California newsletter.

COLORADO, Boulder:

The Rev. Lloyd Gibbs has resigned as Area Chapter Chairman.

AREA CHAPTER NEWS (cont.)

FLORIDA, Daytona Beach:

Efforts were made to form a new chapter at Daytona Beach with the appearance of the Rev. Fitch, SFF Executive Director, in public meetings Jan. 15 and 16. The Rev. James Crosson, retired Episcopal minister, has been appointed acting Area Chairman.

FLORIDA, Jacksonville:

The Rev. Fitch was sponsored as speaker on Tues., Jan. 14; the Rev. Alex Holmes on Wed. night, January 29.

FLORIDA, Miami:

The annual Southeastern Florida Seminar was held Jan. 29-31, with the Rev. Arthur Ford as speaker; Feb. 1 and 2 with the Rev. Alex Holmes, the Rev. Joseph Fitch, and Mrs. Pat Hayes as speakers.

FLORIDA, Tampa-St. Petersburg:

The Rev. Fitch spoke at a public meeting Jan. 17 and met with small study groups Jan. 18. Mrs. Jo Kimmel is scheduled to train prayer group leaders in February.

GEORGIA, Atlanta:

Saturday night, Jan. 11, the Rev. Fitch spoke to the Atlanta Chapter and Sunday afternoon the 12th met with the study groups. Mrs. Kimmel will lead a prayer laboratory for Chapter members Feb. 28 and March 1, the place to be announced.

GEORGIA, Augusta:

The Rev. Joseph Fitch made the first SFF appearance at St. Albans Episcopal Church on Mon., Jan. 13. Efforts are in progress for a new Area Chapter to be organized here.

INDIANA, Indianapolis:

Snow and sleet caused the postponement of the January organization meeting. It is being rescheduled for Feb. 4 and 5. Mrs. Dorothy Edyvean is assisting with the arrangements.

ILLINOIS, Chicago:

Mrs. Jo Kimmel held a spiritual retreat at Richards Street Methodist Church, Jan. 17. Area Chairman, John J. McKean, announces in cooperation with the Bethany Methodist Church, SFF will sponsor a prayer laboratory on the North side of Chicago Jan. 30, 31, and Feb. 1. Announcement is also made that Dr. Michael Blair from London, England, is to lecture in mid-February on "Your Sixth and Uncommon Sense."

Subject: TELEPATHY

--Prepared by Frances Dunlap Heron

I. Definition

Telepathy -- a word coined by pioneer researcher F. W. H. Myers for "the communication of impressions of any kind from one mind to another, independent of the recognized channels of sense."--Encyclopaedia Britannica. Often it is a part of complex psychic experiences.

II. Biblical references

2 Samuel 18:6-33. Although two messengers omitted news of Absalom's death, King David apparently read their minds and began weeping, "O my son Absalom . . . Would I had died instead of you!"

1 Kings 22:1-14. King Ahab liked only those prophets who told him what he wished to hear (they read his mind), whereas he hated Micaiah, "for he never prophesies good concerning me."

2 Kings 6:8-12. Elisha "picked up" the Syrian king's military plans, to warn the king of Israel.

Matthew 9:20-22. Jesus answered verbally the unspoken words of the woman with a hemorrhage.

Mark 11:1-6. Did Jesus "send" a message to the owner of the colt to tie it just inside the village for Jesus' use?

Luke 1:39-45. Elizabeth in a mental flash elicited from Mary the unspoken news of her pregnancy and its significance.

Luke 5:17-22. Jesus "perceived" the questions "in your hearts" of the critical scribes and Pharisees.

Luke 19:1-10. All the pent-up guilt thoughts and even the name of the tax collector, Zacchaeus, must have penetrated the mind of Jesus from Zacchaeus' perch in the sycamore tree.

John 4:46-53. Jesus' words reached across space to flood with healing the body and mind of the official's ailing son.

III. Comments

Telepathy, once suspect, has earned an acceptance that today even psychologists and scientists do not disregard. Hence telepathy is the entree by which many seekers can be drawn into study and development of spiritual awareness. The phenomenon is so common that any dining table conversation may turn to such recitals as, "When the phone rang I knew it would be Jane saying that Grandpa had died. It was."

If such mental activity apart from the body can take place between two "living" persons, and if, as Jesus demonstrated, the personality survives physical death, then cannot communication occur between a personality on the earth plane and one on the spirit plane? Thus telepathy holds the key to the psychic door.

However, telepathy poses problems. We in SFF believe: that A (a mind -- either conscious or unconscious -- of a person in the body) can contact B (the mind -- either conscious or unconscious -- of another person in the body); that A can contact also C (an excarnate personality).

How does one distinguish? Scoffers conclude that everything that comes out in a sitting with a medium is telepathy with the sitter or with the unconscious of other living persons not present.

Arthur Ford replies (p. 40, Unknown but Known) that for a medium to be able to pick out the correct bits of information from limitless sources and fit them together into the situation immediately applicable in the seance taxes credibility more than the excarnate source theory!

IV. Suggestions for individual and/or group study

a) Share one personal experience each, involving telepathy. Set up simple experiments. One person may go out of the room while others concentrate on a thought, which he will endeavor to pick up.

b) How does telepathy take place? No one knows. Researchers observe certain characteristics of the process: Distance is no bar, varying from across the room to across the Pacific. Intensity of feeling seems to facilitate telepathy, for instance, the cry of a wounded soldier rousing his sleeping mother thousands of miles away. A link of emotion, need, or interest between the persons involved sometimes can be traced. (Examine the Biblical references for a link.) On the other hand, a receiver may get something from the mind of a stranger and both be unaware of the transfer. Occasionally a transfer is two-way.

c) What is the difference between telepathy and clairvoyance? Telepathy is thought transference. Clairvoyance is the perception, seemingly visual, of physical objects or events by some means other than eyesight. The two may overlap. In Jesus' conversation with the woman at the well (John 4), did he "see" her five husbands or did he get a mental flash?

d) Can a person developing psychic awareness distinguish between telepathy with the "living" and with exarnates? The enthusiastic beginner and the new group must be cautious in attributing impressions or messages to a spirit entity. The sharpening of telepathy exchanges among group members usually comes as a preliminary to experiencing deeper awareness. Eventually, a skilled sensitive develops an inner knowing of the source of communication. The less skilled or the less scrupulous may, like the prophets of King Ahab, feed back to the sitter his own thoughts.

e) How can one nurture the telepathic process? Harold Sherman, psychic and investigator, suggests experimentation, in which both sender and receiver practice this technique: relax body and mind; visualize a blank, white motion picture screen. The sender "projects" on to his screen an image or an idea, which he then wills to be transmitted to the mental screen of the receiver. At the same fixed time the receiver concentrates on his own screen, sending out a mental call for the sender. Both should participate with feeling.

f) Of what significance is telepathy in religious experience? It can make us more alert to the needs of others. There is a vital relationship to the three emphases of SFF. Prayer -- thought transference in its highest form, by which many can receive guidance from the Divine Mind. Healing -- Edgar Cayce, hearing the name and address of a person in need, in trance could tune in telepathically on the mind and body of the person for diagnosis and prescribed treatment. By telepathy Jesus healed the official's son. So in intercessory prayer, individual or group, speak distinctly the full name of the person in need, visualize God's healing light as permeating the person, and thus act as a telepathic link. Personal Survival -- telepathy is our tool for assembling evidence of spiritual survival of death, particularly when the thoughts and impressions picked up from the exarnate reveal characteristic traits of personality.

V. Bibliography (Check Indexes of books you have for references to Telepathy) The following are in the SFF Lending Library:

Martin Ebon, editor, True Experiences in Telepathy (pb), 1967

G. Maurice Elliott, The Bible as Psychic History, 1959

J. Gaither Pratt, Parapsychology: An Insider's View of ESP, 1964

Louisa E. Rhine, Hidden Channels of the Mind, 1961

Harold Sherman, How to Make ESP Work for You, 1964 (also pb)

WILL SOMEONE HELP ???

An SFF benefactor has paid subscriptions for our journal to go to fifty colleges and seminary libraries for several years, but she recently has become ill and unable to continue this service. We have had a request from another seminary for our publication which now becomes the journal, Spiritual Frontiers, a quarterly. It will still be \$5 per year or \$1.75 per issue. However, postal regulations limit the number of gift subscriptions we can make. Is there someone who would like to give \$255 for gift issues of the 1969 journal to these colleges and seminaries? If so, please write the Executive Director.

AREA CHAPTER NEWS (cont.)

MARYLAND, Baltimore:

Fred Ohrenschall spoke on the subject, "Spiritual Growth Through Prayer Groups," on Sunday, January 12. On February 2-4, Mrs. Kimmel will conduct a workshop for leaders of prayer and study groups in the Baltimore area.

NEW YORK, New York City:

Dorothy Smith, medium from England, spoke on January 6; the Reverend James Kinnear spoke on January 20.

NEW YORK, Long Island:

Mrs. Eleanor Dwyer, new Chapter Chairman, reported recently that 12 persons joined SFF on one day. No program announcements have been made as yet.

AREA CHAPTER NEWS (cont.)

OHIO, Cleveland:

Area Chairman, Walter Ermer, recently reported the new Steering Committee to include: Secretary, Frank Estok; Treasurer, Gladys Sanger; Program Chairman, Herb Beyer; and Study Group Chairmen, Gladys Sanger, Ann David, Ruth Herman, and Eloise Plavney. This Chapter is busy organizing its study groups.

OHIO, Dayton:

The Rev. Alex Holmes lectured on Divine Healing at the United Church of Christ, according to a report made by the Rev. Edward Puff, Chapter Chairman, on Monday, Jan. 27.

OHIO, Defiance:

The Rev. Alex Holmes led an ecumenical service of divine healing on January 26.

OHIO, Canton:

David Jones, Chapter Chairman, reports that the Rev. Alex Holmes spoke at the Canton Chapter on Friday, February 7.

PENNSYLVANIA, Harrisburg:

The Rev. Arthur Ford held a public lecture sponsored by SFF speaking on "New Dimensions in Science and Religion." The new Chapter Chairman, Kemper Hammel, replaces the Rev. Malcolm Carnahan who recently moved to Chicago. Mrs. J. Kimmel held a workshop on prayer on Feb. 6-8. Three study groups are now under way; two prayer and meditation groups, and also a group studying survival. A group on healing is in the process of formulation.

Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship

800 Custer Avenue, Suite #1
Evanston, Illinois 60202

Application to Mail at
Second Class Postage Rates
is pending at Evanston, Illinois

A. R. F.
P. O. Box 595
Virginia Beach, Va. 23451